Order Number: 04-15-109

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT

# OCCUPANCY & USE LENGTH OF STAY

#### **PROHIBITIONS:**

Pursuant to Title 36 CFR 261.50 (a) the following act is prohibited in the areas, as described in this order, all within the Palisades Ranger District, Caribou-Targhee National Forest effective **May 1 through September 1 annually**.

- 1. Camping or otherwise occupying the same location or any site within a five (5) mile radius of the same location for a period longer than five (5) consecutive days. 36 CFR 261.58(a)
- 2. After camping or occupying the same location for five (5) consecutive days, returning to that location or any site within a five (5) mile radius of that location within less than seven (7) days.

### **EXEMPTIONS:**

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (e) the following persons are exempt from this order:

- 1. Persons camping in a developed campground.
- 2. Persons with a permit specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
- 3. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

### AREA DESCRIBED:

A map delineating the area affected by this order is listed as Exhibit A, and is attached to, and made a part of this order.

The area from National Forest System Road (NFSR) #058 (Bear Creek Road) to the shoreline of the Palisades Reservoir, beginning at the Palisades Dam and ending at the junction with Bear Creek Trailhead #048 road.

The area 1 mile north of Palisades Dam to include all the area from US Highway 26 to the South Fork of the Snake River west to NFSR #076 (Snake River Calamity Road).

The area from US Highway 26 to the shoreline of the Palisades Reservoir, beginning at the Palisades Dam and ending at Alpine Campground. Those areas within ¼ mile of either side of the road along NFSR #268 (Little Elk Canyon), NFSR #262 (Big Elk Canyon), NFSR #271 (Blowout Canyon), NFSR #281 (Indian Creek), to the end of the roads.

The area from NFSR #087 (McCoy Creek Road) to the shoreline of the Palisades Reservoir, beginning at the junction of Highway 89 and McCoy Creek Road and ending at McCoy Creek Bridge.

The area ¼ mile either side of the following National Forest System Roads; NFSR #217 (Table Rock Canyon Road), NFSR #218 (Kelly Canyon Road), NFSR #206 (South Fork Snake River Road), and NFSR #077 (Fall Creek-Skyline Road) from the junction with NFSR #076 (Snake River-Calamity Road) to junction of NFSR #066 (Blacktail Canyon-Point Lookout Road).

#### **PURPOSE:**

To manage high overnight recreational/residential use along the Palisades Reservoir and long term stay of unattended recreational vehicles along major development roads on the District.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

- 1. This Order will be in effect when signed and shall remain in effect until further notice.
- 2. A map identifying the closure area is attached and made part of this Order.
- 3. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for individuals, and \$10,000.00 for organizations and/or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months. [Title 16 USC 551, Title 18 USC 3571(b)(6), Title 18 USC 3581 (b)(7)].
- 4. Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order

Done at Idaho Falls, Idaho this 27th day of January, 2010.

BRENT L. LARSON

Forest Supervisor

Caribou-Targhee National Forest

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## Assessment of Need and Enforcement Plan

1. <u>Background</u>. In recent years, the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Palisades Ranger District has seen a marked increase in its dispersed recreational use. Although the District has numerous developed campgrounds, these campgrounds are at or near full capacity on key weekends and holidays, making dispersed sites even more important for the recreating public. The Palisades Ranger District is located less than one hour driving time from Idaho Falls, Idaho, one of the largest cities in southeastern Idaho and within two hour driving time from Pocatello, Idaho, another large cite in southeastern Idaho. The Palisades Ranger District has a wide variety of recreational opportunities and draws users from out of area as well as local use.

Because of the high demand on the District, the forest has seen a sharp increase in its dispersed camping along the Forest Roads throughout the District, but particularly along well maintained roads. These site are occupied by the public throughout the summer months and are occupied for 16 days at a time, as per the Greater Yellowstone Area Order, (GYCC-4). The 16 day limit allows users to leave RV trailers unattended on site during the week day and reserve the site for the weekend. This has limited other users from using the site during the weekday forcing them to previously undisturbed (new sites). Often these sites are within riparian areas where use is not desired by the District. Due to the high use in these areas, the natural resources have been impacted at a higher rate than in other areas of the forest.

There has also been an increase in the amount of forest users residing along the Palisade Reservoir lakeshore on National Forest lands. Bonneville County Sheriff's Department, as well as forest LE personnel, has reported an alarming rate of public use residing in the area. This is due to the Bridger-Teton's enforcement outside of the Jackson, Wyoming area and its residential problems. Jackson, Wyoming is located just one hour from the Palisades Reservoir and commuters working in Jackson are often found residing along the shoreline.

This order would help move campers out of a high use areas in a timelier manner as to not create any resource damage and help forest and local law enforcement personnel with residential issues.

- 2. Intent of Subpart B order. This order is intended to manage the high overnight recreational/residential use along the Palisades Reservoir and long term stay of unattended RVs along major development roads on the District. With the assistance of Forest Prevention Officers and forest LE personnel, the public would be able to overnight camp along the reservoir and well maintained Forest Service Roads for a five day period then leave the area for other campers and also give the resources a break from recreational use.
- 3. Enforcement Plan. Appropriate staff, Forest Protection Officers, Law Enforcement Officers and other field going personnel will enforce while patrolling area. The first year will consist of educating visitors concerning the new Forest Order.

Action	Responsible Official	<u>Date</u>
Prepare proposed order	Forest LEO	9/18/2006
Review proposed order	District Ranger	11/1/2006
Review proposed order	Patrol Captain	11/3/2006
Review proposed order	Regional Office	11/3/2006
Approve proposed order	Forest Supervisor	
Post order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51	District Staff Officer and staff	00/00/00
Prepare news release for local media describing the order and management objectives	District Ranger PAO Zone PC/LEO	
Describe implementation/action taken for order, such as planned patrols, enforcement strategies, tolerances, contacts to local public agencies.  Implement plan.	Appropriate Staff FPO's and field going personnel.	00/00/00

Enforcement Plan approved for implementation:

LAWRENCE A. TIMCHAK

Forest Supervisor
Caribou-Targhee National Forest

11-08-06

Date











